

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method for acknowledging a wireless data discarding request transmitted by a first station to a second station for requesting the second station to discard at least a layer 2 service data unit (SDU), the method comprising:
- 10 generating a layer 2 data discard acknowledgment protocol data unit (PDU), the layer 2 data discard acknowledgment PDU comprising a first field that enables the first station to determine layer 2 SDUs discarded by the second station; and
- 15 transmitting the layer 2 data discard acknowledgment PDU to the first station.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein each layer 2 SDU to be discarded has a terminating layer 2 PDU that holds a terminating end of the layer 2 SDU, and the first field
- 20 indicates the number of terminating layer 2 PDUs discarded by the second station.
3. A method according to claim 1 wherein the first field indicates the number of layer 2 SDUs discarded by the second
- 25 station.
4. A method according to claim 1 wherein the first field indicates the number of layer 2 PDUs discarded by the second station when discarding the layer 2 SDUs.
- 30 5. A method according to claim 1 wherein the first field comprises a bitmap that indicates a discard state for each

layer 2 SDU to be discarded.

6. A method according to claim 1 wherein the layer 2 data discard acknowledgement PDU further comprises a second field for indicating a starting sequence number for an updated receiving window of the second station, and a third field for indicating discarding of layer 2 SDU data within a PDU having the starting sequence number.

7. A method according to claim 1 wherein the first station comprises a layer 2 interface and a layer 3 interface, and the first field in the layer 2 acknowledgment PDU enables the layer 2 interface to inform the layer 3 interface of the number of layer 2 SDUs discarded by the second station.

8. A wireless communications system comprising:
a first station capable of transmitting a data discarding request, the data discarding request being used to request discarding of at least a layer 2 service data unit (SDU); and
a second station capable of receiving the data discarding request and sending a layer 2 data discard acknowledgement protocol data unit (PDU), the layer 2 data discard acknowledgement PDU comprising a first field that enables the first station to determine layer 2 SDUs discarded by the second station.

9. A wireless communications system according to claim 8 wherein each layer 2 SDU to be discarded has a terminating layer 2 PDU that holds a terminating end of the layer 2 SDU, and the first field indicates the number of terminating layer 2 PDUs discarded by the second station.

10. A wireless communications system according to claim 8 wherein the first field indicates the number of layer 2 SDUs discarded by the second station.

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11. A wireless communications system according to claim 8 wherein the first field indicates the number of layer 2 PDUs discarded by the second station when discarding the layer 2 SDUs.

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12. A wireless communications system according to claim 8 wherein the first field comprises a bitmap that indicates a discard state for each layer 2 SDU to be discarded.

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13. A wireless communications system according to claim 8 wherein the layer 2 data discard acknowledgement PDU further comprises a second field for indicating a starting sequence number for an updated receiving window of the second station, and a third field for indicating discarding of layer 2 SDU data within a layer 2 PDU having the starting sequence number.

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14. A wireless communications system according to claim 8 wherein the first station comprises a layer 2 interface and a layer 3 interface, and the first field in the layer 2 data discard acknowledgment PDU enables the layer 2 interface to inform the layer 3 interface of the number of layer 2 SDUs discarded by the second station.

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